
CONTACT US

CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF
SS. PETER AND PAUL AND
SHRINE OF ST KATHARINE DREXEL
18TH & VINE STREETS
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103

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ANNUAL EVENTS

DREXEL SHRINE MISSION AWARD

P.A.T.H. DISCERNMENT RETREAT

ANNUAL LEGACY LECTURE

SOLEMN NOVENA AND FEAST
DAY MASS & CELEBRATION

HOMECOMING CELEBRATION
OF THE TRANSLATION OF THE
SACRED RELICS

TORRESDALE READING CLUB

CANONIZATION DAY OF
SERVICE AND GIVING

SKD BIRTHDAY GOODS-DRIVE

*"If we wish to serve
God and love our
neighbor well, we must
manifest our joy in the
service we
render to Him and
them."*



DAUGHTER OF
PHILADELPHIA

**SAINT
KATHARINE
DREXEL**

**PATRON SAINT OF
PHILANTHROPY &
RACIAL JUSTICE**



1858 - 1955



SPIRIT OF THE EUCHARIST

Katherine Drexel, middle of three children, formed by the examples of service and justice by her father and step-mother, continues to inspire generations of Catholics by her “total gift of self.” Her life of sacrifice, selflessness, and simplicity models a love of the Body of Christ that pours itself out lovingly for all, but especially the forgotten, neglected, and oppressed.

“In this thought, this desire, this act, is there anything of God’s service, God’s glory? If so, think it, desire it, speak it, act it.”

TIMELINE

UPBRINGING

St. Katharine was born in 1858 to Francis A. Drexel and his first wife Hannah, who passed away weeks after Katharine’s birth. At an early age she began desiring a religious life, and though initially discouraged, she eventually convinced her spiritual director that she had a vocation.

SISTERS OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

The Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament were founded by St. Katharine on February 12, 1891 with a mission to serve Native and African Americans. The order grew in Katharine’s lifetime to over 400 sisters, and established almost 150 missions and over 60 schools.

XAVIER UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA

In 1925 St. Katharine founded a college for African Americans, and Xavier University became the first co-ed Catholic college in the United States and the only Catholic HBCU (Historically Black College or University).

CANONIZATION

The cause for canonization began quickly after St. Katharine’s death on March 3, 1955. Following the verification of two miraculous healings, Mother Katharine Drexel was declared a saint on October 1, 2000.